

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 DLOS-06 SAL-01 EB-07 COME-00 L-03
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 AGRE-00 XMB-02
/058 W

----- 094280 /53

O P 221305Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3076
INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

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DEPT FOR OES/OFA SNEAD; COPENHAGEN AND MEXICO FOR RFO;
PORT OF SPAIN FOR AGATT

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: EEC, EFIS, PLOS, NS, FR, FG, JA, KS, PN
SUBJ: INTEREST OF U.S. COMPANIES IN SHRIMP FISHING OFF FRENCH
GUIANA

REF : (A) EC BRUSSELS 12568, (B) PARIS 37507, (C) PARAMARIBO
1084 (NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY NOTES THAT TRAFFIC ON QUESTION OF SHRIMP FISHING
OFF FRENCH GUIANA COAST HAS FOCUSED ON OBTAINING AGREEMENT FOR
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U.S. BOATS TO FISH IN EC WATERS ONCE 200 MILE ZONE HAS BEEN
ANNOUNCED. IN FACT, THIS IS ONLY SMALL PART OF PROBLEM FACED
BY LOCAL CASTLE AND COOKE SUBSIDIARY S.A.I.L. (SURINAM-
AMERICAN INDUSTRIES LTD.) WHICH WORKS WITH BOATS FLYING FLAGS
OF THREE OTHER COUNTRIES IN ADDITION TO U.S.

2. S.A.I.L. MANAGING DIRECTOR HAS GIVEN US FOLLOWING BREAK-DOWN OF ITS BOATS AND THEIR FLAGS: (A) U.S.-5; (B) SURINAM-20; (C) REPUBLIC OF KOREA-85; AND (D) PANAMA-36. IN ADDITION, LOCALLY OPERATING JAPANESE FIRM, SUJAFI (SURINAM-JAPAN FISHING INDUSTRY) HAS 43 BOATS FLYING JAPANESE FLAG.

3. IN ADDITION TO USG INTEREST IN SEVERAL MILLION DOLLAR CASTLE AND COOKE INVESTMENT IN LOCAL SUBSIDIARY, EX-IM LOANS FINANCED \$1.8 MILLION PURCHASE OF THE TWENTY BOATS FLYING SURINAM FLAG (51 PERCENT OWNED BY GOS, 49 PERCENT BY CASTLE AND COOKE) AND FIFTY BOATS (TEN OF WHICH HAVE NOT YET ARRIVED) FLYING KOREAN FLAG.

4. ACCORDING TO S.A..L. FIGURES, 52 PERCENT OF THEIR SHRIMP-ING IS DONE OFF FRENCH GUIANA, WITH 28 PERCENT OFF GUYANA, 11 PERCENT OFF BRAZIL, AND ONLY 9 PERCENT OFF SURINAM. KOREAN FLAG BOATS REPORTEDLY CLAIM THAT 63 PERCENT OF THEIR CATCH ORIGINATES OFF FRENCH GUIANA. JAPANESE FIRM ON THE OTHER HAND DOES 60 PERCENT OF ITS FISHING OFF GUYANA AND ONLY 40 PERCENT OF FRENCH GUIANA.

5. IT IS OUR ASSUMPTION THAT AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN US AND EC, AS ENVISAGED IN PARA 1 EC BRUSSELS 12568, WHETHER OF TEMPORARY OR LATER OF PERMANENT NATURE, WOULD COVER AMERICAN FLAG VESSELS ONLY, WHICH WOULD BE OF ONLY MARGINAL VALUE TO S.A.I.L. IN ORDER TO PRESERVE THE COMPETITIVE POSITION OF S.A.I.L. SUCH AGREEMENT WOULD PRESUMABLY HAVE TO INCLUDE KOREA AND PANAMA. FROM OVERALL POINT OF VIEW OF SURINAM, AGREEMENT WOULD ALSO HAVE TO INCLUDE JAPAN, SINCE THAT COUNTRY'S FLAG FLIES ON SUJAFI SHIPS.
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6. WE HAVE QUERIED GOS (VAN DER GELD, DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN MINISTRY) AND FIND THAT THEY HAVE NOT TAKEN ANY RECENT ACTION. IN ABSENCE SURINAM REPRESENTATION IN PARIS AND (AT THAT TIME) OF FRENCH REPRESENTATION IN SURINAM, SURINAM APPROACHED FRANCE AT UN SOME TIME AGO WITH REQUEST THAT, IF 200 MILE ZONE PROCLAIMED, "BOATS OPERATING OUT OF SURINAM" WITHOUT REGARD TO FLAG BE EXEMPTED FROM FRENCH REGULATIONS. NO REPLY RECEIVED TO THIS DEMARCHE. GOS MAY NOT HAVE UNDERSTOOD THAT, ONCE ZONE PROCLAIMED, RESPONSIBILITY FOR NEGOTIATIONS PASSES TO EC, AND VAN DER GELD SAID HE WOULD INSTRUCT SURINAM AMBASSADOR TO EC FERRIER TO CONTACT US MISSION FOR COORDINATION. SHOULD BE NOTED SURINAM IS ASSOCIATED WITH EC THROUGH LOME CONVENTION, IF THIS HAS ANY BEARING ON SUBJECT.
ZURHELLEN

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